

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Welcome Back

I would like to take the opportunity to formally Welcome Back the Year 10 students, following the festive break. Whilst the last year has been difficult and unconventional, I couldn't be prouder of the way that the students have taken every aspect of uncertainty and change in their stride with such resilience. The start of this new term has also proved that the students are adaptable to change and dedicated to ensuring that they continue to build their knowledge, ready for the next phase of their Key stage 4 journey.

In support of our Microsoft Teams provision, all of our students have access to the *Show My Homework Platform* and *GCSEpod*. Access to both of these support platforms is via a student user name and password, and both of these can be provided by Myself or your Child's Tutor.

We are extremely thankful for being so adaptable with the switch to our Online Provision Via Microsoft Teams, especially when we have found ourselves back home during this lockdown. Whilst the transition since our return from the festive break has not been without it's challenges, I am glad that the majority of our students are well underway with their learning. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your patience with regards to access issues that you may have experienced.

However, if you are still experiencing issues with connecting to the remote learning provision, Microsoft Teams, queries relating to your child's remote learning or you require your child's password to be reset, then please contact us directly via email addresses below.

### Remote Learning Password Resets and Enquires

- Year 10 [CBerry@ormistonpark.org.uk](mailto:CBerry@ormistonpark.org.uk)

### Remote Learning IT Issues Support (Devices / Connectivity / Microsoft Teams etc)

- [OPARLSupport@ormistonpark.org.uk](mailto:OPARLSupport@ormistonpark.org.uk)

### Remote Learning Expectations

It is our expectation that all students attend all of their timetabled remote lessons on time and are ready for each session. Invites for the lessons will be sent in-advance by the teacher and all sessions are recorded for safeguarding.

The lessons will be 40 minutes long and if the lesson is a double, the students will be set tasks to complete for the second half of the lesson.

The students need to ensure, where possible, that they have a pen and paper for each lesson. If they do not have an exercise book and pen, one can be collected from our reception. Please call our **Main Reception** in advance on **01708 865 180**, so they can ensure that it is ready for your child before you arrive.

All students are expected to fully participate in the lesson, as they would if they were in the classroom. They may be asked to contribute either via the chat or via their microphone if they have one. All students must ensure that their cameras are off and the microphones are muted at all times unless the Teacher requests feedback. Ideally, the students would be situated in a quiet area, away from any distractions.

If the students do not attend their lessons, you will receive a notification via *BehaviourWatch*. If the students are seen to be absent from period 1 or other lessons throughout the day, a member of the Year 10 Team will be in contact with you.

### **Tutor Time and Assemblies**

Starting next week our Year 10 team will be inviting students to Tutor Time on a **Monday and Friday from 8.45am – 9.00am**, and all students are required to attend. This is an integral part of our curriculum and will give the Tutor's the opportunity to check in with their students. It will also be an opportunity for the students to raise any concerns or ask any questions about their lessons or to share how their week and lessons have been so far.

### **Mental Health and Well-being**

During these unprecedented times, it is even more important than normal to ensure that we look after our Mental Health and Well-being, and that of our students. It is important that the students structure their time around their lessons to have a break away from their screens. Exercise and eating well will ensure that they are able to focus when needed and sleep well at night. It is equally as important that the students try to keep to a routine and ensure that they are up early and ready to start the day.

The PE department are setting exercise routines and links to *PE with Joe* workouts, as it is important the students stay active whilst they are at home.

If the students feel that they need some extra support and would like to talk to a member of our Pastoral or Safeguarding Team, then they can email them directly via the email address below.

- [mwoodfield@ormsitonpark.org.uk](mailto:mwoodfield@ormsitonpark.org.uk)

Alternatively, support and guidance can be found through a number of organisation's including the Samaritans (link below)

<https://www.samaritans.org/how-we-can-help/if-youre-having-difficult-time/if-youre-worried-about-your-mental-health-during-coronavirus-pandemic/>

### **Free School Meals**

With regards to students who receive free school meals, we are waiting on the government scheme to commence and we will then send vouchers directly to parents email addresses via a company called Schoolvouchers.com. If you have changed email address, then please update us of these changes by contacting either myself or Main Reception.

If there is anything that either myself or the Year 10 team can assist with during this time, then please do not hesitate to contact us.

Your Sincerely

Miss Berry

Head of Year 10